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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application Number:

Filed:

Applicants:

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Sweet, John Favuzzi

Title:

Advance Programmed Sample Processing System and

Methods of Biological Slide Processing

International Application No: PCT/US2003/040519, Filed 19 December 2003

Original US Applications:

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Assignee:

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

I. INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Before calculating filing fees and before examining the above-referenced application, please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 3.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 17 of this paper.

Assignee notes that the claims have been amended to remove multiple dependencies and to cancel claims without prejudice, to limit examination effort required for this initial application. Accordingly, claims 57-104 have been canceled, claims 5, 6, 8, 10-13, 25-27 and 55 have been amended and claims 1-56 remain in the application.

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This amendment is presented as a bona fide attempt to comply with the revised 37 C.F.R. §1.121.